

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

Summary Minutes October 23, 2003

Meeting Time 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Meeting Location:

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room
SPU Operations Control Center
2700 Airport Way South
Seattle, WA**

Members and Alternates Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU), Frank Urabeck (Trout Unlimited), Sam Wright (WA Trout), Phyllis Meyers (NMFS), Tim Romanski (USFWS), Steve Foley (WDFW), Dennis Moore (MIT) and Hans Berge (KC)

Other Participants: Brodie Antipa, Joan Thomas (WDFW), Chuck Ebel (USACOE), and Paul Faulds (SPU)

I. Call to order

Bruce called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

II. Approval of agenda

Members unanimously approved the meeting agenda.

III. Meeting minutes review and approval from August 21, 2003

Members unanimously approved the meeting minutes from August 21, 2003.

IV. Landsburg Fish Passage Project

Operations update

Paul updated members on the operation of the fish ladder at Landsburg. He reported the ladder was functioning as intended passing chinook, coho, and other species above the dam and moving sockeye down river or to the hatchery broodstock program. It was noted that the weir on the Cedar River was disabled during a large flow event on October 21st and that sockeye from the ladder would be provided to the broodstock facility to supplement those available from the weir.

V. Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead

Update on adult PIT tag readers in the fish ladder at the Hiram Chittenden Locks

Bruce introduced Chuck Ebel from the USACOE. Chuck provided members with a status report on the feasibility testing for adult PIT tag detection done by Biomark, Inc. at the Locks, which was funded by WDFW.

Bruce asked if it was the consensus of the group that the committee needed summary data on the PIT tagged groups from 2001-2003 and an analysis of potential return rates prior to funding the project. Members agreed with this statement. Chuck said he would provide members with the requested information. Bruce indicated that the AFC would be polled to determine if they wanted to proceed with the project.

Cedar River O. mykiss genetics study - interim project report and projected costs

Bruce asked Steve to update members on the genetics proposal from Anne Marshall. The proposal was emailed to members prior to the meeting. Steve reported the proposal

outlined the funding requirements and analysis of the genetic samples that were collected in 2003.

Bruce noted the committee would entertain a motion to approve the WDFW proposal that funded up to \$21,000 for the genetic analysis of the O. mykiss samples collected in 2003. Sam made a motion and Steve seconded the motion. The AFC unanimously approved funding the proposal and noted they would like to see a report on the analysis completed in 2003 or in the first part of 2004.

VI. Cedar River sockeye hatchery program

Hatchery appeal

Bruce noted the hearing for the hatchery appeal was completed and that it had lasted four days. He briefly described the testimony process and provided members with the legal briefs that were provided to the Hearing Examiner.

Updated on hatchery design process

Bruce reported on the hatchery value-engineering workshop that was put together by Linda DeBoldt. The objective of the workshop was to review the design and make a recommendation that could result in lower costs.

VII. Public comment (scheduled for 11:30)

None present

VIII. Information and discussion items

Draft 2002 Weir Report – Brodie Antipa

Brodie provided members with the draft 2002 weir report.

Report from Dave Beauchamp - Spatial-Temporal Dynamics of Early Feeding Demand and Food Supply by Sockeye Salmon Fry in Lake Washington

Bruce noted the report was emailed to members. He thought it was interesting that the horizontal and vertical distribution of sockeye was larger than originally estimated providing access to more prey. As a result sockeye fry are only eating about 5 percent of the food supply in the lake and smolts are eating about 7 percent.

Broodstock collection update

Brodie reported the hatchery had about 9.5 million on-hand. On Monday night (Oct. 21st) the weir was lost in the high flows and it suffered severe damage.

Guidance for discussion of moving fish from Landsburg.

Bruce noted that origin of sockeye reaching Landsburg has not been determined. To better understand this process otoliths are being removed from sockeye to determine if they are from the hatchery releases or natural spawners. These fish will be first used as broodstock. Members felt that up to 1,000 sockeye or 20% of the broodstock for the hatchery could come from the Landsburg Fish Ladder.

Cedar River live fish count update

Steve noted the later timing of sockeye and chinook entering the river this year. He pointed out it was interesting to compare this return with the 1999 return which peaked in November and had a flatter curve. Live counts would be emailed to members.

Vacancy for stakeholder seat on AFC

Bruce reported that recently letters were sent out to organizations and individuals that had indicated an interest in the Landsburg mitigation projects to identify individuals who might be interested in filling the vacant stakeholder position on the AFC.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 PM.